

Decontamination Procedure

What is Bleach?

Bleach is the common name for sodium hypochlorite. Most over the counter bleach contains about 6% sodium hypochlorite. Bleach is used to not only disinfect your workstation but to degrade amplicon and protect your site from contamination.

Directions for Decontaminating Your Workstation

- 1** Gather your bleach product. Create a 1:10 bleach solution by diluting standard bleach (6% sodium hypochlorite) 1:10 with water. Add 1/4 cup bleach per gallon of water. If your institution prefers to use an option that does not require diluting bleach daily, please ensure the active ingredients list sodium hypochlorite (bleach).

Note: Diluted bleach is stable for 24 hours.

- 2** Saturate a disposable towel with the 1:10 bleach solution or alternative equivalent (bleach wipes or bleach spray). Wipe the surface of the workstation until it is visibly wet with bleach.

Tip: Ensure that any touch points such as pens and door handles are bleached.

- 3** Let the bleach rest at least 10 minutes on the work surface.
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- 4** Saturate a new disposable paper towel with water and wipe the bleach residue off the work surface.
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- 5** Fill out applicable decontamination logs.

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